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Wednesday
November 3, 1993
Volume 7
Number 28



INLAND EMPIRE

HISPANIC NEWS

Serving the Hispanic Communities in the Inland Empire

• San Bernardino • Colton • Rialto • Bloomington • Redlands • Fontana • Riverside • Casa Blanca • Rancho Cucamonga • Ontario

Hispanic News recognized with resolution by S.B. Board of Supervisors

The San Bernardino Board of Supervisors, at its November 2 meeting, recognized the Inland Empire Hispanic News for being selected by a national magazine as one of three Hispanic newspapers that is foremost in publishing vital data to the Hispanic public.

The resolution further acknowledged that the IEHN publishes information on issues of social, economic and education and highlights profiles of Hispanics achieving in business, academics and the professions.

IEHN was, in addition, recognized for the newspaper's personnel active involvement in the communities within Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

Cont. on page 6

SAN BERNARDINO'S CONGRESSIONAL

Medal of Honor Recipient Remembered

November 11th is Veterans Day, a national holiday when America honors its war veterans who participated in major wars throughout its history. The Inland Empire Hispanic News is privileged to present a biographical profile of Joseph Rodriguez, recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor for heroic action during the Korean War, who was born and raised in San Bernardino's Westside community.



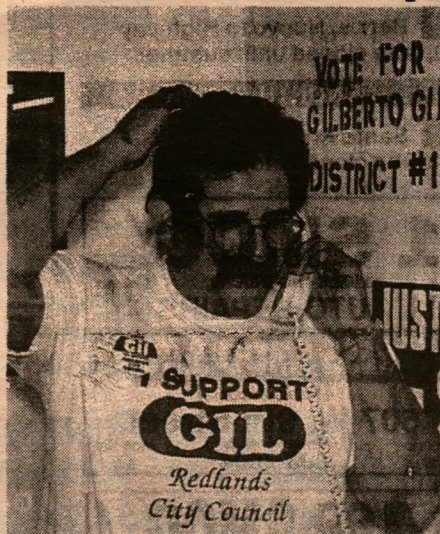
Joseph (Chuck) Rodriguez
Congressional Medal of Honor

Joseph (Chuck) Rodriguez was born and raised in San Bernardino, California. Graduated from San Bernardino Valley College and soon after entered the Army in October, 1950. Less than

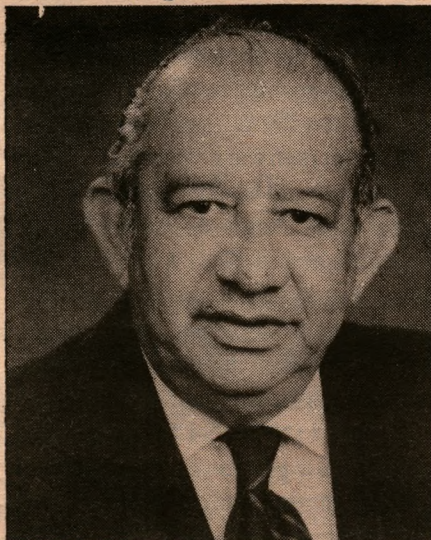
seven months later was engaged with the enemy in combat in Korea. One week after the event for which he was recognized, he was wounded in a combat action. He was evacuated to a hospital in Japan for three months. Having recuperated from his wounds, he requested to be returned to his original unit. Served in Korea until late November, 1951 when he was flown back to the United States because the recommendation to be awarded the Nation's highest military award had been approved. President Harry S. Truman presented the Medal of Honor to him on January 21, 1952. He served as an enlisted man in the infantry and held every rank except Master Sergeant. In 1952 he was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers. He was assigned to the Far East, to include two tours in Korea and one in Viet Nam. Also stationed in Latin America in Bolivia, Argentina, twice in the Canal Zone and in Puerto Rico. He served twelve consecutive years overseas. His last assignment was at Fort Bliss, Texas as the Facilities Engineer of the Installation. During his military career he attended various military schools and universities. He retired after 30 years in the military as a Colonel.

Continued on back page

Inland Empire Hispanic Election Winners



Gilberto Gil
Redlands City Council



Ray Abril, Jr.
Colton Schools - Area 2



Dr. Henry Mercado
Redlands School Board



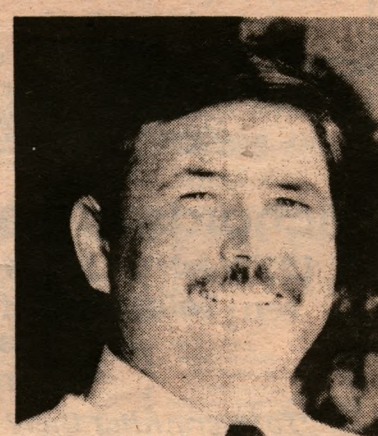
Stephanie Cereceres
S.B. Community College Trustee



Judith Valles
S.B. Community College Trustee



Elisa Diaz
San Bernardino School Board



Karl Gaytan
Colton School Board

Latino Peace Officers Plan First Horseshoe Tournament on Saturday, Nov. 3

The Latino Peace Officers Association have scheduled its First Horseshoe Tournament on Saturday, November 13th at Cage Park, 900 block on Main Street (cross street at Iowa) in High Grove. Registration is 8:00 a.m. with first throw at 9:00 a.m. Early registration is November 3rd with fee of \$10 with \$20 with tournament T-shirt. Late registration fee of \$12 at gate.

First, second and third place trophies. Cash prize for first place finishes.

Monies generated at the event will go to the scholarship fund.

Mail checks to: L.P.O.A., P.O. Box 1632, Colton, CA 92324. For further information call (909) 686-4476.

Jerry L. Pettis V A Medical Center and Health Research



By Ray Quinto

The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) ranks as the largest system of health care delivery in the Western World. It delivers high quality care to veterans through 171 hospitals, 350 outpatient clinics, 26 nursing homes, and 30 domiciliary services. It also serves certain categories of veterans' dependents. Its unswerving mission is the provision of the best possible health care to these 28 million Americans.

Without medical research as an integral element, no health care system can sustain these standards of excellence.

Established in 1946 with tight links to the nation's best medical schools, research in the VHA has pioneered new paths in medical practice that are of historic significance.

Awarded the Nobel Prize in Medicine for their pioneering development of radioimmunoassay techniques, two VA physician-scientists, Dr. Rosalyn Yalow and Dr. Andrew Shally, have revolutionized methods for measuring

minute amounts of hormones, antibodies and other vital substances in body tissues and fluids. Through collaborative research in different VHA medical centers across the country, VHA physicians were the first to define the normal EKG and its disordered patterns in heart disease.

The scope of VHA medical research has suffered increasing budgetary constraints over the past ten years, and it is now marginally equipped to study aging veterans and other critically important health care problems consonant with VHA missions. Much VHA research is of the highest importance to the general community, transcending its immediate goals in veterans' problems.

At this VA Medical Center, much medical research focuses on new diagnostic procedures and new therapies intrinsic to excellent patient care. We have also pursued less trodden paths. We seek causative roles for environmental, dietary and infective factors; as in the ravages of AIDS through reduced

surveillance by the immune system, in diseases of aging that tragically reduce strength of the skeleton, and in the progression of tissue cells towards cancer and tumor formation.

Key aspects of research at Loma Linda VA Medical Center involve:

1) Effects of environmental magnetic fields in fetal development, immune surveillance, neurobehavioral patterns, and deregulation of cell growth in tumor formation.

2) Skeletal weakness associated with disordered mineral metabolism in osteoporosis, and hormonal factors that regulate normal bone growth and repair of bone and cartilage.

3) Altered cell membrane structure in T-lymphocytes attacked by the human immunodeficiency (AIDS) virus, and vulnerability of T-cell and virus enclosing membranes as a pathway to novel AIDS therapies.

Pioneering aspects of this research have won international recognition.

Ray Quinto is Chief, Research Operations.

The Philip Marmolejo, Post 650, American Legion and Auxiliary are sponsoring a Veterans' Day Ceremony at Redlands Eternal Flame Memorial

The Philip Marmolejo Post 650, American Legion and Unit 650 Auxiliary, Redlands are sponsoring a patriotic ceremony on Veterans Day, November 11th at 11:00 a.m. at the Eternal Flame Memorial located at Redlands Blvd. and New York Street.

American Legion and VFW veteran groups have been invited to participate in the event to honor the veterans of past wars. The general public is also welcomed. Norman Martinez, Post charter member, will be the master of ceremonies and Commander Ray Quinto, United States Naval Reserve, will be the keynote speaker.

The name of Charles Witham will be included in the engraving roll with other soldiers who died in battle. Mrs. Maud Ingalls, mother of Congressional Medal of Honor recipient George Ingalls, will receive a plaque from Post

650 for her participation in the Auxiliary.

Her son, George Ingalls, served in the First Cavalry Division in Vietnam where he flew and jumped from helicopters. Ingalls died in April, 1967 in Vietnam from wounds suffered when he fell on an enemy hand grenade to save his comrades.

This initial event will be the catalyst for annually continuing these commemorative events, stated Pete Zavala, event chairperson. "We have to keep remembering the veterans who went away to fight for our country. And especially those men who did not come back."

After the ceremonies, the American Legion post 650 will host a buffet at the clubhouse located at 1532 North Church Street, Redlands.

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- Director -

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Ecclesiastes 3:1

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Frankie Bemis is a hero, honestly



Frankie Bemis
Mt. Vernon Elementary School "Hero"

Frankie Bemis' classmates at Mt. Vernon Elementary School call him a hero. His teacher, principal, and even

the School Police have commended him for doing a good deed. But he's not sure what all the fuss is about.

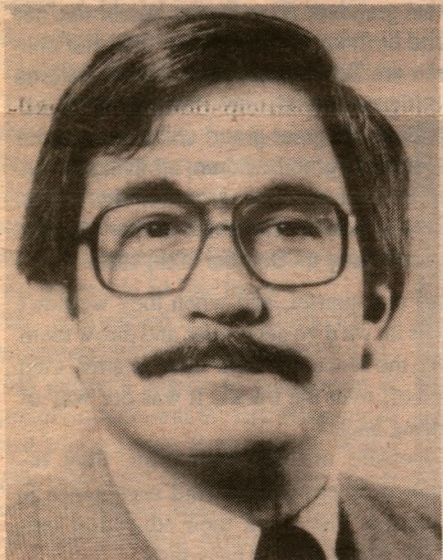
On Tuesday, September 28, Frankie found \$120 on the playground at the end of the school day while rushing to get to his bus. School wasn't in session Wednesday so on Thursday he turned the money over to Mt. Vernon Principal Lupe Zowarka. What's the big deal, Frankie seems to ask?

"I only did what was right," says the fourth grader.

"Frankie," says his teacher Kathy McGhee, "doesn't quite know how to accept all this attention." She used the youngster's experience as a lesson/discussion in her class.

McGhee says Frankie "digs in" and works hard at school. It seems doing the right thing just came naturally to a young man who appears to have his act together. What would you have done?

Kraft Foods Appoints Hispanic to Group Vice President for Technology



NORTHFIELD IL, October 13, 1993 — Kraft General Foods (KGF) recently announced the appointment of Dr. Enrique J. Guardia, 55, as Group Vice President, Technology, for General Foods USA.

Dr. Guardia, a 28-year company veteran, will also retain responsibility for Scientific Relations at KGF.

Dr. Guardia began his career with KGF in 1965 as a chemist with General Foods Technology Center in Tarrytown, New York. Later, he increased his responsibilities both domestically and internationally, serving as Research Manager of General Foods Limited in England from 1974 to 1976, as Research Manager of General Foods France from 1976 to 1978, and as Research Director of General Foods Europe in Brussels from 1978 to 1980.

Dr. Guardia earned a B.S. and a Ph.D. from the University of Washington in Seattle. He has been a long-time Board Member of the National Hispanic Scholarship Fund, which has raised more than \$18 million in schol-

arships for Latino students. He frequently speaks to Hispanic university students, urging them to pursue careers in science and math.

Hispanic School Board Caucus Meeting



The Hispanic Caucus of the California School Boards Association recently held its 8th Annual Conference at the famous Mission Inn, Riverside. The successful 4-day conference was attended by 350 Hispanic board members and educators from throughout the state. Presenting a check to Mrs. Olmos (mother of famous actor Edward Olmos and third from left) is Yvonne Garcia, president. Others in the photo (L to R) Ofelia Valdez-Yeager and Robert Nava, caucus co-chairs & Riverside School District Board members.



Pictured above is the Hispanic Caucus' Dinner held at the Mission Inn, Riverside, during the recent Hispanic Caucus 8th Annual Conference. The successful 4-day event was highlighted by the keynote speaker, Mrs. Lily Wong-Fillmore.

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A saga of the barrio's struggle for rights and recognition

"All of us hated school because they would not allow us to speak Spanish. We were punished if we spoke it. We had tape put across our mouths, we were beaten, kept after school, had our hair pulled, our heads knocked together or against a wall." Yet, he says, throughout the barrio, all that

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The Victorville Barrio as it looks today from the I-15 Freeway. The famous railroad line divided the barrio from the town.

was spoken was Spanish, so a lot of kids couldn't speak anything but Spanish. He says that the parents of the children knew about the abuses, but were afraid to speak out because they weren't American citizens.

"Like many Mexicans at that time, our parents were charged a penny to cross the border and weren't given immigration papers. They had this fear of being sent back to Mexico like so many others were in 1931-300,000 Mexican Americans were sent back. So, all they would tell us was, 'That's the way it is...That's the way it is.'"

Aurora Navarro Tercera, another barrio success story, was the first Hispanic to graduate from Victor Valley High school and later became the official translator for the Mexican Council in San Bernardino, helping countless immigrants get their papers in order. Surprisingly, any other kids who survived Eva Dell went into the educational field.

"We saw how teachers lived. They had nice cars, and we respected and loved many of them, though we were treated very badly by some. A teacher was like a parent to us, and we wanted to be like them."

Diaz, who earned his bachelor's degree in elementary education at Cal State L.A. and his master's degree in counseling at Chapman College, was the first Hispanic to teach at Victor Junior High School. Willie Pringle, who grew up in one of the oldest houses in the barrio, received his bachelor's degree from Northern Arizona State University and is now the Athletic Director of Victor Valley College. In 1950, David Hernandez became the first Mexican-American teacher in the Victor Elementary School District when he took a position at Eva Dell. In 1960, he became principal of both Victor Elementary and Eva Dell. He retired as Principal at Irwin School.

Bennie Amador, Diaz's childhood best friend, is now a retired vice-principal from

the San Diego School District. His son is a pre-med student at Stanford University. His daughter just started Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.

Many Mexicans and Blacks were drafted into the military at a disproportionate rate, Diaz says, because the draft board always aimed its finger at the Victorville minorities. From 1941 to 1959, 79 young barrio men served in the military. Some volunteered to serve, in a final attempt to prove, Diaz says, that they were, indeed Americans. In fact, the first WWII casualty from San Bernardino County was Manuel Rodriguez of Victorville, who joined as a private and died as a lieutenant. Many more died. Yet, even upon dying, they were not accepted.

At age 16, Manuel Casillas volunteered for the military when WWII broke out. Diaz was only seven at the time, yet remembers when Manuel left and when he



The Victorville family reunion was well attended



(R to L) John Hernandez, Speedy Hernandez, Henry Cancino, and friend.

returned...in a coffin.

"When they brought his body back on the train, the townspeople would not let him be buried with the rest of the war dead. They said to bury him with the Mexicans. I swore on that day that if I ever had the power or authority, I would honor Manuel." And so he has. Manuel's grave is still not with his comrades in arms, but recently, Diaz recommended to the redevelopment board that "D" Street, a main thoroughfare connecting Victorville and Apple Valley, be renamed Manuel Casillas Blvd. The board concurred with the recommendation. Diaz stated that other Victorville street names will be changed to men's names who died in World War II and Korean War.

There are many other success stories, as well, too numerous to mention. These men and women who survived the trail by fire in the Victorville barrio prove that the American dream is not dead, that a person can start from the barrio and become the elite of society.

In the 1950's, Mexicans and Blacks were finally allowed to own property across the tracks. Today, there are approximately 40,000 Hispanics living in the Victor Valley. Many are directly descended from those original families of the barrio who forged a reputation for having faith, perseverance, and character out of nothing but Victor Valley sand and sagebrush.

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Victorville Mayor Busby presenting a plaque to Helen Martinez, originator and organizer of the family reunion event. At left is Felix Diaz.

American Cancer Society's

"El Gran Apagón" Fiesta

Actor Jorge Rivero and other renowned Latino performing artists will entertain an expected audience of 15,000 during the American Cancer Society's "El Gran Apagón" fiesta to be held Sunday, November 14 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the historic Olvera Street, Pueblo de Los Angeles Historic Park in downtown Los Angeles. The family event, which is co-sponsored by Radio KALI 1430 AM, is completely free of charge.

"El Gran Apagón," being held for the fourth consecutive year, is the Latino version of the American Cancer Society's "Great American Smokeout," which celebrates its 17th anniversary in 1993. "El Gran Apagón," like the Smokeout, is a lighthearted attempt to encourage smokers to quit for 24 hours...or more.

"Cigarettes and tobacco cause 400,000 deaths each year in the U.S.," said Edith Herons, volunteer event chair and promotions director, Radio KALI. "We're trying to counteract the tobacco industry's advertising directed at Latinos, and the influence that North American culture has had in encouraging Latinos to smoke."

El Gran Apagón will feature booths offering information in Spanish on how to quit smoking. Bilingual volunteers, Latino physicians and the artists them-

selves will encourage smokers to give up their habit.

To date, Mexican Singer Ginny Hoffman, Singer Ray Avila, Personality Tony d'Marco and the musical group Los Camaro are scheduled to participate in the event. They will be joined by Jorge Rivero, as well as by Radio KALI Dee-Jay Pepe Reyes, Edith Herons and others.

Smoking is responsible for 87 percent of lung cancers, and is associated with heart disease, gastric ulcers, chronic bronchitis, emphysema and low birth weight in babies. In addition, second-hand smoke causes respiratory sickness in children whose parents smoke, and increases lung cancer risk for those who live with smokers.

El Gran Apagón is sponsored by Radio KALI, Care America, Blue Cross of California, Nicoderm, Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) and KWHY Channel 22.

For information on bus, Red Line or Blue Line routes to Olvera Street, call MTA, consumer information services at 213/626-4455.

For information on El Gran Apagón or to learn how to quit smoking, call your local unit of The American Cancer Society or Radio KALI at 213/466-6161.

Hispanic Author, Victor Villasenor, to lecture at UCR University Ford Foundation Honors Program, Nov. 4

Noted Hispanic author Victor Villasenor will deliver the first University Honors Program Ford Foundation Lecture at the University of California, Riverside at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 4, in Watkins 1000.

The lecture is free and open to the public. Parking is available in Lots 5 and 6.

The quarterly lecture series has been established by the UCR Honors Program to promote international understanding. The series is underwritten by the Ford Foundation which provided the original funding to create and operate the UCR Honors Program. Villasenor's appearance is co-sponsored by UCR Chicano Student Programs.

As an author, Villasenor is noted particularly for his vivid description of the clash of cultures and the hardships encountered by Latinos, perceptions that became emblazoned in his mind growing up in Southern California. He has also written a number of screenplays, including "The Ballad of Gregorio Cortez."

Villasenor wrote for 10 years while supporting himself through seasonal

construction work. He wrote nine novels and 65 short stories, receiving 260 rejection notices before he sold his first novel, "Macho," in 1973.

One of Villasenor's major works, "Rain of Gold," is the non-fiction saga of the immigration of his parents from Mexico to California during the Mexican Revolution. He will soon publish book two of the story, "The Wild Steps of Heaven."

Born in the barrio of Carlsbad, California 1940 and raised on a ranch in nearby Oceanside, Villasenor struggled through school but eventually dropped out and traveled to Mexico where Mexican art and history made an indelible impression upon him. He remembers wanting to stay in Mexico and never return to the United States, where he was made to feel ashamed of being Mexican.

It was while reading James Joyce's "Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man" that Villasenor decided to become a writer and confront through literature the problems associated with his cultural heritage that had plagued him as a young man.

Free Guide to Smoke Free Restaurants

Tobacco Use Reduction Now, a program of San Bernardino County's Department of Public Health, has produced a guide to smoke-free restaurants in San Bernardino County. This free guide lists over 75 completely smoke-free restaurants in twenty-five

cities. Restaurants in the guide specialize in a variety of foods, including Mexican, Italian, fresh seafood, cajun creole cuisine, and good old American home cookin'. Call Tobacco Use Reduction Now at 1-800-637-6653 to receive a copy.

Ayala receives "Legislator Award of Merit"

Senator Ruben S. Ayala, (D-Chino), was recently notified of his selection as "Legislator Award of Merit" by the Association of California Water Agencies. Ayala served as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Water Resources for seventeen years.

Capitol insiders, familiar with the byzantine world of California water politics, acknowledged the Senator dominated the subject - like no other.

In 1980, after four painstaking years and thousands of pages of testimony, Governor Brown signed SB 200 (Ayala), relating to the Peripheral Canal and related facilities. The measure was intended to provide a reliable water supply to the vast majority of Californians.

In 1983, Ayala introduced SB 89 which made null and void the bureau-

cratic nightmare that prevented New Melones Reservoir on the Stanislaus River from being filled. So many Senators and Assemblymen co-authored the measure that passage was assured. Deukemejian supported the bill.

Filling New Melones provided much needed storage to freshen the water in the Southern Delta. Southern California gets a portion of her water from that area.

Recognizing each of the above undertakings to be monumental in scope, the Association of California Water Agencies chose to honor Ayala for his enormous history of accomplishments in the field of water.

In closing, Senator Ayala said "I did my very best to provide for the needs of both my constituency and our Great State."

Hispanic News honored by Supervisors

Continued from page 1

Graciano Gomez, IEHN publisher, thanked the Board of Supervisors, and specifically the resolution's sponsors, Supervisors Riordan and Eaves, and stated that the newspaper's progress

was the result of teamwork by the IEHN board of directors. He additionally recognized the contribution of Trini Gomez, IEHN office manager.

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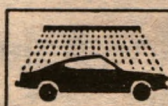
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Congressional Medal of Honor Citation

Rodriguez. Joseph C. Korean Conflict

Rank and organization: Sergeant (then Pfc.), U.S. Army, Company F, 17th Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. Place and date: Near Munye-re, Korea, May 21, 1951. Entered service at: California. Born: November 14, 1928, San Bernardino, Calif. G.O. No.: 22, February 5, 1952. Citation: Sgt. Rodriguez distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty in action against an armed enemy of the United Nations. Sgt. Rodriguez, an assistant squad leader of the 2nd platoon, was participating in an attack against a fanatical hostile force occupying well-fortified positions on rugged commanding terrain, when his squad's advance was halted within approximately 60 yards by a withering barrage of automatic weapons and small-arms fire from 5 emplacements directly to the front and right and left flanks, together with grenades which the enemy rolled down the hill toward the advancing troops. Fully aware of the odds against him, Sgt. Rodriguez leaped to his feet, dashed 60 yards up the fire-swept slope, and after lobbing grenades into the first foxhole with deadly accuracy, ran around the left flank, silenced an automatic weapon with 2 grenades, and continued his whirlwind assault to the top of the peak, wiping out 2 more foxholes. Reaching the right flank, he tossed grenades into the remaining emplacement, destroying the gun and annihilating its crew. Sgt. Rodriguez' intrepid actions exacted a toll of 15 enemy dead and, as a result of his incredible display of valor, the defense of the opposition was broken, the enemy was routed, and the strategic strong point was secured. His unflinching courage under fire and inspirational devotion to duty reflect the highest credit on himself and uphold the honored traditions of the military service.

Joseph (Chuck) Rodriguez - from page 1

After retiring from the Army, he went to work at the University of Texas at El Paso as the Director of the Physical Plant, responsible for all new construction and maintenance of all facilities. Retired again after ten years with the University.

Married the former Miss Rose Aranda of Colton, California in November 1952. They had three children. The oldest, Charles Gary was a West Point graduate Class of 1975. He has received his Ph.D. and is Vice Presi-

dent, Development at The Union Institute in Cincinnati. He married the former Miss Cappy Provost. They are both Majors in the Army Reserve. They have a son and a daughter.

Lawrence the second son has been employed by Goodyear for several years and is operating in Reno, Nevada. He has two daughters and a son.

The daughter Karen is a registered nurse. Married to Captain Sidney Sh. U.S. Army Nurse Corps who is assigned at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. They have a daughter and son.

Colton ceremony to honor veterans

The Colton Veterans Day Committee will commemorate the 40th Anniversary of Veterans Day on November 11, 1993. The ceremony will begin at 10:00 a.m. sharp in Fleming Park, located at the corner of LaCadena Drive and "F" Street in Colton.

You are cordially invited to join in paying tribute to the more than 26 million living veterans who have served our country in uniform, as well as the more than one million men and women who have given their lives in defense of our nation.

Our featured speaker will be Congressman George E. Brown, and leading the laying of the wreath will be the distinguished Col. Lewis L. Millett (Ret.), Medal of Honor recipient. Everyone is encouraged to participate in this tribute by placing a flower at the base of the Vietnam Memorial in memory of a veteran living or deceased.

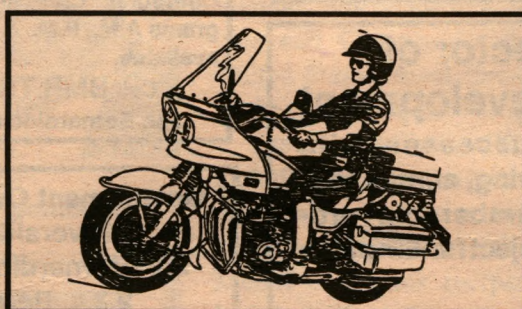
Immediately following the ceremony the public is invited to an "Open House" for food and refreshments at any of the following locations;

American Legion #155, 401 Veterans way, Colton, CA 92324, (909) 825-2984, VFW Post 6476, 8th and Orange Streets, Colton, CA 92324, (909) 370-3138, Catholic War Veterans, 1275 West "C" Street, Colton, CA 92324, (909) 825-5783.

Jules Carvalho, Jr.
Chairman

California Highway Patrol

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(909) 383-4819 • State Traffic Officer Mel Baker, Recruitment